

CHARO et al. – Appln. No. 09/763,462

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 and 24 have been examined. Claims 14-23 were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. Applicants submit that claims 25-26 should be examined in this application because they are directed to the elected invention. Upon allowance of an elected product claim, rejoinder of method claims depending therefrom is requested.

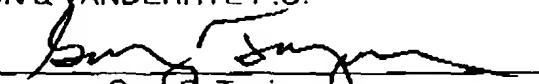
With regard to the Interview Summary dated November 24, 2003, the following is Applicants' record of the substance of the interview as required by the Examiner. The prior art rejections were discussed. In particular, Dr. John Rhodes explained that there was not a reasonable expectation in the prior art that Schiff base forming compounds (e.g., tucaresol) could be successfully used as an adjuvant for DNA vaccination. The Examiner requested that this evidence be submitted in the form of a Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.132. The Declaration is being prepared and will be submitted.

Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit an early Notice to that effect. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any further information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:


Gary B. Tanigawa
Reg. No. 43,180

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100